

## CLAIM AMENDMENTS

In the Claims: Claim 9 has been withdrawn. Please amend claims 1 and 7 as follows, and cancel claim 8:

1. (Currently amended) A method of producing a product for improving immune-function in mammals, comprising: Use of *Lactobacillus reuteri* strains selecting a strain of *Lactobacillus reuteri* that
  - a. ~~exhibit~~ exhibits good toxin binding and neutralizing effect; and
  - b. ~~exhibit~~ exhibits good CD4+ cell recruitment, and  
~~for the production of a composition for improving immune-function in mammals~~formulating the product to contain cells of the strain of *Lactobacillus reuteri*.
2. (Original) A product comprising a strain with at least the characteristics according to claim 1.
3. (Original) The product of claim 2 wherein the product is formulated as a food containing cells of the selected strain.
4. (Original) The product of claim 2 wherein the product is formulated as a tablet containing cells of the selected strain.
5. (Original) The product of claim 2 wherein the product is formulated as a dietary supplement containing cells of the selected strain.
6. (Original) The product of claim 2 wherein the product is formulated as a confectionery containing cells of the selected strain.
7. (Currently amended) The product of claim 2 wherein the product is formulated as ~~a~~ an oral drug containing cells of the selected strain for improving the immune-function of a patient.
8. (Canceled)
9. (Withdrawn) A method for improving immune-function in mammals using *Lactobacillus reuteri* strains in products containing cells of such strains, comprising: using strains that
  - a. exhibit good toxin binding and neutralizing effect;
  - b. and exhibit good CD4+ cell recruitment.